



Observer

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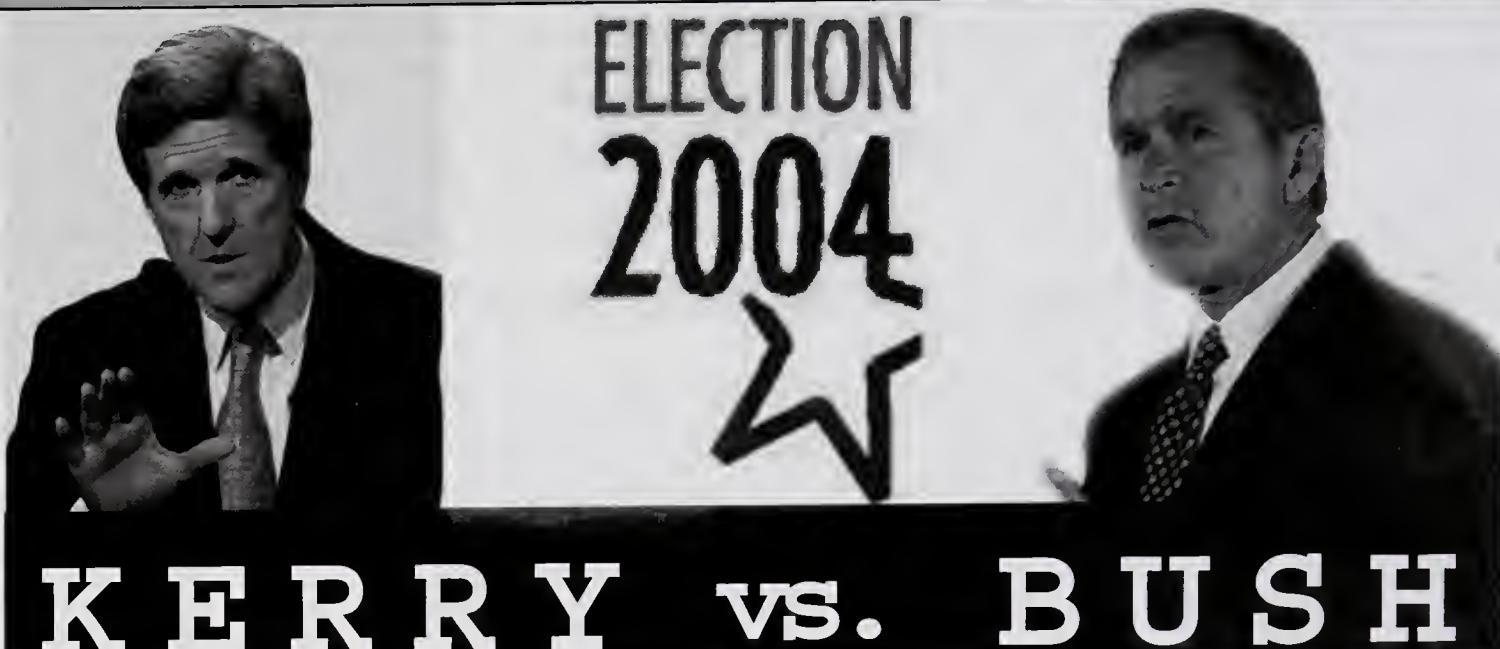
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KERRY vs. BUSH

The race for office continues as Election Day races nearer

The Unofficial Fourth Presidential Debate

By Jacob Lofgren and Kara Marxer, Staff Writers

In less than a week, the citizens of this great nation will elect the next President of the United States. The voting options are endless: Libertarian, Socialist, Communist, Green, Independent, Reform, Democrat, Republican, and there is always the age-old option of the write-in. While the field does feature numerous candidates, the American public tends to focus on the two candidates from the mainstream political parties. The contenders: John F. Kerry the Democratic candidate from Massachusetts and George W. Bush the Republican candidate from Texas.

The question is, which candidate is the best choice to lead this nation? In an effort to assist in this decision, *The Observer* has provided its readers with both a Democratic and a Republican perspective. The intention of providing the two perspectives was to give readers a better understanding of the positions and policies endorsed by each party. *The Observer* presents the following debate in an effort to build on the previous two articles. While this debate does not feature a celebrity moderator or even the candidates themselves, it does focus on the policy stances and beliefs of each candidate and presents their views as accurately as possible.

(The following format is used for presentation purposes only. The moderator is fictional and used only to present questions, but the responses are genuine and accurate.)

Moderator: Welcome to *The Observer*'s issue-orientated debate aimed at you, the Saint Joseph's College reader, with the information on the policy stances of the two major candidates. Presenting the policy stances of the Republican Party and its incumbent candidate, President

George W. Bush, please welcome Jacob Lofgren. Presenting the policy stances of the Democratic Party and its challenger, Senator John F. Kerry, please welcome Kara Marxer.

Moderator: The first question is directed to Mr. Lofgren. The issue on the minds of most students is education, both in terms of funding and quality. What are the intentions of your candidate with regard to this issue?

Lofgren: (Five minutes of thanking *The Observer* and important individuals omitted.) President Bush's education agenda is clear and concise. First, he intends to continue pushing for the advancement and enforcement of the recently passed, No Child Left Behind Act. The Act requires that school districts meet set government standards before they receive government funds. In effect, the government says we will no longer accept failing schools and "pushing forward students who are not learning." President Bush also intends to continue increasing the number and funding of federal grants and loans provided to college students throughout the nation, including here at SJC.

Marxer: (Likewise thanks *The Observer* and other people, but more graciously.)

Senator Kerry's education plan is very similar to Mr. Bush's, but with one important difference: Senator Kerry plans to adjust the funding of the No Child Left Behind Act to work for the American education system. He wants to provide enough funding for the Act to do what it is designed to do. Rather than over-funding succeeding schools and under-funding already failing schools, he wants to even the playing field for all children to receive a good education. Senator Kerry also wants to increase the

amount given out in federal grants. President Bush, on the other hand, simply wants to increase the number of grants given out, which would likely decrease the amount of aid each student receives.

Moderator: Ms. Marxer, the next question is for you. Senator Kerry proposes several major reforms to health care. Please explain one major reform.

Marxer: Senator Kerry's most prominent proposal is to give all Americans the chance to buy into the same healthcare policy that the Congressmen and women receive. In doing so, he will cut prescription drug costs and lower family premiums by up to \$1,000 per year. Senator Kerry's plan gives every American the opportunity to have quality healthcare, including seniors and children. Finally, Senator Kerry wants to eliminate the bureaucratic waste that now characterizes our healthcare system.

Lofgren: Ms. Marxer accurately portrays the position of John Kerry on this issue, and that is the scary part. Kerry's proposal is SOCIALISM; he wants to push government into the health care industry. Kerry insists that he is giving the public the option to stay with private firms, but even he admits staying with private firms would be hard given their inability to compete with the prices of the government. President Bush's plan, on the other hand, works to the benefit of both American capitalism and the individual American health care consumer.

His plan includes limiting the size of settlements in malpractice suits in order to reduce the cost of insurance. In addition, Bush vows to continue researching the possibility of allowing the importation of prescription drugs from Canada.

Moderator: Fiscal sanity and taxes are two topics on the mind of every American citizen. Mr. Lofgren, what is the perspective on Senator Bush on the issue?

Lofgren: The President is the first to admit that the current budget deficit is unacceptable and he proposes to cut the current budget in half within five years. However, President Bush has emphatically stated that he will not cut funding on either the war or the armed forces simply to save money. He realizes that success in Iraq and Afghanistan require full and complete funding, and he is unwilling to sacrifice these efforts in an attempt to save money.

President Bush also vows to make permanent his tax cuts of 2001 and to continue seeking ways to improve the tax code to benefit ALL American citizens.

Marxer: John Kerry, if elected President, will cut the deficit by half within four years. He plans to achieve this goal by rolling back the tax cuts on the wealthiest Americans and expanding the tax cuts for the middle and lower classes.

His plan will benefit 98% of all Americans, as opposed to the 1% benefited by the Bush tax plan. This plan will NOT decrease the funds available for homeland security, but will more effectively spend government money. By increasing the money spent on intelligence and the training of the local police forces, Senator Kerry will move American troops out of harms way in Iraq and Afghanistan more quickly than his opponent.

Moderator: That is all the space we have for now. I would like to thank our guests and *The Observer* for this opportunity. We hope that this debate shed some light on a few of the major policy stances of both President Bush and Senator Kerry. Please remember to let your voice be heard on Tuesday, November 2. Happy voting!

VOTE NOVEMBER 2.

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Editor:

My name is Alice McKay, and I am the manager of the Halleck Underground Bistro, better known as the HUB. We recently had an issue of theft in the HUB. About a week ago, a couple of my employees decorated the HUB for Halloween, and after not even two days, two of those decorations were stolen. I was hurt by these actions, and the HUB is no longer decorated because of this. I buy those

decorations with my own money, so that my employees and customers can enjoy the holidays. It is very unfortunate that such a wonderful thing like decorating the HUB must come to an end because of bad decisions made by a few. If I were approached about how much someone liked a certain decoration, I am the type of person that would probably just give them the decoration, or possibly buy them one like it.

Many people can agree with this, as I have done many things for the students here at SJC. I am aware that theft is not unknown to the campus this semester, as a lap top was stolen from someone's room. It is just utterly disappointing to my staff and me that due to such bad choices things will be ruined for everyone here. I sincerely hope that perhaps the reading of this letter will help change the minds

Sincerely,
Alice McKay

Little 500 Tradition Threatened: Campus Takes Charge

By Renee Pugh, Staff Writer

In light of last issue's riveting Earth Science Week article, it is prudent to note that SJC is home to its own endangered species: tradition. Little 500, a forty year-old SJC ritual in which participating students mimic the Indy 500 in a campus-wide go-kart race, has encountered its

darkest day yet. The event is in danger of cancellation this year, as race coordinators Amanda Barnhart and Beth Kidwell stepped down earlier this semester after spearheading the Traditions committee for a year.

"The first and most prominent reason [we] stepped down was

lack of help and lack of participation," explained Barnhart, a junior chemistry major. "Beth and I each put roughly 300-500 hours into organizing the event. It seems that everyone wants this weekend to happen, but no one wants to help it take place." In light of such

cumbersome circumstances, Barnhart and Kidwell decided it would be best if they simply resigned their positions. "We didn't feel that our worries should be directed towards an event about which so few people seem to care," said Barnhart.
Continued on page 3

The Power of Faith Leaves No Impossibilities

By Bob Jansen, Columnist

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17: 20)

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

Jesus replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. (Luke 17:5-6)

I've often wondered if the Apostles weren't occasionally offended by Jesus' words. Have you ever seen mustard seeds? They are ridiculously small. When I was in elementary school, my dad handed me one so I could have a better understanding of these Gospel passages. He placed it in my tiny fingers and I dropped it on the kitchen floor. After fifteen minutes of searching, I came to a better understanding of the size of mustard seeds. I also came to hate my own klutzy abilities, but that is another story.

What is Jesus saying here? Isn't it enough for me to profess myself as a Christian and go to church on Sundays? Why can't I

move mountains or throw mulberry trees into the sea? I'm not certain why I would want to throw a mulberry tree into the sea, but it would be cool to try! Imagine a Mortal Kombat game where your power is to throw mulberry trees into the sea or dropping a mountain on your opponent. It'd be fun.

I suppose the main issue here is, "How often do I really put my faith into something?" Looking at my own life, I see that while I say things like, "I believe in you. I have faith this will happen. I trust you," I also try to protect myself. It hurts when we invest our time, energy, and our very selves into a cause and then have it all be for naught. Think of the last time a

boy/girlfriend broke up with you or the last time a good friend betrayed your trust. Think of the last time you invested your energy into a project only to see it fail. It hurts a lot to be vulnerable and then have someone take advantage of us. I know I try to keep my heart safe from as much pain as I can.

Now think of the best friendship you ever had or the best relationship you have been in. Think of the best project you were involved in or the best game you ever played. Wasn't it worthwhile to invest yourself? Wasn't it inspiring to be part of something special?

Jesus invites us to open up to God. But are we so closed up or

are our hearts so hard that we will not move no matter what happens? Are we that stubborn mountain? What will it take for us to become an eager mustard seed and bloom? On behalf of a crusty old mountain, this is not an easy question to ask. Our faith is what allows us to become vulnerable, yet it is also the thing that can give us the most joy and comfort. It is a very scary thing to take our lives (mulberry tree?) and cast them into the sea of faith. It is so hard to uproot our very selves. Yet this is the challenge of Jesus.

So power up ye olde Super Nintendo, open yourself up to God, and move some mountains!

By Matt LeClaire, Columnist

Who Put the Razz in the Razzamatazz?

All school buses are equipped with flashing lights, stop signs, and alerts out the wahzoo. Obviously, these warning systems are for the safety of the children on the bus since no one can think of anything more depressing than a school bus accident. No one but me, that is.

There is one other vehicle built that contains something a million times more valuable than our children, however: clown cars. Nothing is sadder than the death of a clown. Furthermore, each and every clown car is absolutely packed when it goes out for its little joy

ride. These cars have no safety systems. I have never seen a clown car with air bags, seatbelts, or anti-lock brakes. The pure audacity of the manufacturer of these little death boxes makes me sick.

Imagine if you will, a crash involving two clown cars clearly filled to the spatial limits. Not only would twisted metal and flaming wreckage cover the grounds as they hit with one big "WAH-OOO-GAH," but little red noses and rainbow hair would rain from the sky like the apocalypse was upon us. White make-up would be splattered

across the road, leaving passersby doing everything possible to retain their lunches. Big red shoes would be scraped and re-pieced for the viewing by all the clowns' loved ones and relatives. It would be a sad day indeed.

The children may be our future, but where would the world be without clowns? We don't need hundreds of little Einsteins running around; we need a Bozo, someone capable of twisting a small, inflatable device into any animal known to man. Future parents take heed: forget about children; adopt a clown!

**Attention
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measure
the literary society of Saint Joe's College



PAWS:

...to the cast of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* for presenting to SJC an entertaining and funny show. Congratulations!



CLAWS:



...to all the athletes participating in the library Study Tables who talk loudly to their teammates while others are trying to study.

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Little 500 Tradition Threatened: Campus Takes Charge

Continued from page 2

Barnhart and Kidwell's resignations left a deep chasm in the heart of SJC's rich history of customs. Many were disturbed at the prospect of Little 5's absence, Student Association president Heather Mikus among them. "Little 500 is a long-standing tradition. It connects Pumas, past and present," noted the junior biology-chemistry major. "As a student, I would hate to see this tradition die." Past driver and Little 500 enthusiast Brian

Bugajski also treasures his experiences in the race. "There is nothing that can compare to the feeling you get when you slide in behind the wheel and the engine starts revving next to your helmet," he recalled. "Even though I haven't seen a Little 5 go-kart since April, I think about the race every day."

Given the nature of the tradition as an SJC staple, SA officers called a class officer meeting. The class officers collectively decided that a

campus-wide meeting should be held in which interest in Little 500 could be gauged. Following this all-campus meeting, senior mathematics and physical education major Jen Willig, senior psychology major Angie Quartuccio and sophomore mathematics major Heather Shelton all offered to take over the Traditions committee. They immediately set about reviving Little 5.

Thus far, interest has been promising, though much help is still needed. "Numerous people have volunteered themselves," said Willig. "But, there are multiple committees to be involved in, and there are plenty of jobs within each committee that need to be filled."

Both Bugajski and Mikus emphasized the importance of student involvement in these committees, which has declined over the past few years. "Even if a student can only dedicate five

minutes of his or her time, it would be much appreciated," said Mikus. Bugajski agreed. "This is an event that benefits all of campus, so everyone should help out in some way!" he said. Barnhart also offers her support to the new leadership. "I really hope this works out for SJC. I am going to be right alongside Jen [and the others] every step of the way," she stated.

For more information, contact Willig at extension 8681 or by email at jwh3992@saintjoe.edu.

Habitat Volunteer to Serve as Guest Speaker for Missionary Fund-Raising Dinner

By Breain Ma'Ayteh, Director of Publications and Media Relations

On Saturday, November 13, at 6:30 p.m. CST, SJC junior Heather Mikus will serve as the guest speaker for a special fund-raising dinner hosted by the Missionary Outreach Program, an organization sponsored by the College that funds mission work in Tanzania, Africa. Mikus was one of 11 students and staff to participate in a trip to Tanzania this August, where she assisted in building two houses through Habitat For Humanity and visited the Village of Hope, an orphanage supported by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.), the religious organization that sponsors SJC.

The dinner aims to raise money for the Village of Hope and other C.P.P.S. missionaries in Tanzania, a country with special ties to SJC. The late Rev. James Froelich, C.P.P.S. '51 started the Missionary Outreach Program in 1997 with the intention of providing greatly needed medical supplies for the hospitals, leper colonies, and orphanages of East Africa. Froelich passed away in July of 1998 in a primitive clinic in Morogoro.

Mikus has a wealth of information to share with dinner guests about present conditions in Tanzania and how it has

affected her career path. A future doctor, she plans to eventually relocate to Tanzania and open a free clinic for those who can't afford proper medical care. "Sometimes I think people don't realize how much poverty is in Africa until they hear real-life stories about some of the most kind-hearted people," she said. "Seeing it first hand so recently, I feel that I am the most qualified to speak about it."

According to Missionary Outreach President Alan McFarland, getting young people such as Mikus actively involved in missionary work is the best way to ensure that it continues. "Missionary Outreach is anxious to perpetuate interest in C.P.P.S. missions throughout the world by involving young people as overseas volunteers and local fund-raisers," he said.

In addition to Mikus' speech, the program will also include a live auction of East African artifacts. The cost for the dinner is \$15 per plate; however, SJC students enrolled in a campus meal plan may attend for free.

For more information about the dinner or the Missionary Outreach Program, contact McFarland by e-mail at alanmac@netnitco.net.



Photos of the volunteer work done by SJC Habitat members and the Adorers of Christ at Tanzanian orphanages and seminaries. Photos courtesy of Mikus and Kenny Shumard, class of 2004.

Six Former SUB Members' Sudden Farewell

By Becky Scherer, Editor-in-Chief

Information courtesy of and quotes gathered by Casey Wagner, Staff Writer

The Student Union Board (SUB) is responsible for nearly every student activity planned on campus. The board members book events and draft contracts with performers in order to bring eclectic entertainment to Saint Joseph's College. The close cooperation, trust, and acceptance among board members and club advisor Aaron Newman, Director of the Office of Student Activities, is essential. However, it is when this cooperation is abused or neglected that problems arise. With the recent resignation of six quintessential board members, what started out as a problem contained within the group has quickly become detrimental to the remainder of the students at SJC.

The recently resigned members are as follows: Casey Wagner, Executive Director; Rachel Jarrard, Vice Executive Director; Jenny Diaz, Executive Assistant; Eric Johanning, Director of Finance; Amanda Bartz, Director of Promotions and Public Relations; and Kristin Geske, Director of Advertising and Marketing.

"All of us were extremely dedicated to SUB and giving the SJC community all they deserved, but it is difficult to do this when you are met with no support in return for all of the hard work you put into planning events," stated Wagner. In order to dispel the recent rumors surrounding their sudden resignation, five of the six former members offered their own personal justifications for their actions.

Jarrard prepared a rather direct answer to the question of her resignation. When questioned, she responded, "I left SUB because I felt the board and the advisor were not working [smoothly] enough to provide the activities this campus needs."

Johanning bluntly stated, "The administration knew change could be made, but chose not to make the changes. Things could have been done to make SUB better or better maintained, but they were not done."

In complete agreement with Jarrard and Johanning, Diaz added, "I felt the advisor was failing to do his job, and in failing to do his job

the members of SUB were pushed to their limits. I quit before someone snapped."

Geske used this tension as a learning experience. "I have learned that the way you present yourself really has an impact on others. I believe that I have become more open and outgoing towards others and I believe a lot of that is because of SUB and SJC," she said.

"Even though all of our reasons for departing were the same, we learned that merely stating [that there were] 'communication and trust issues between the board and the advisor' was not enough," Wagner said of their formal resignation before the student senate. "In order to illustrate the frustrations, lack of trust, and multiple miscommunications the board was receiving, it is important to see the many shortcomings of our advisor."

With the intention of bringing to surface what the board collectively viewed as inadequacy from their leader, various executive members composed a letter addressed to the involved administration explaining

instances that went awry in the planning of and over the duration of freshmen orientation weekend.

Summarily, a handful of the transgressions addressed in the letter are as follows: detrimental misinterpretations of contracts and the lack of providing contract follow ups, incohesive endeavors between the board and the advisor, miscommunications concerning official school policies, lack of sufficient hired professionals at various activities, various breaches in members' contracts,

unprofessional and inconclusive admonishments during disciplinary situations, uncooperative efforts between several executive board members and the advisor, insufficient equipment security necessary to hold certain events, significant overspending and irresponsible fund management, trust issues between the executive officers and the club advisor, and several instances of personal attacking and degradation.

After drafting the letter, the six members decided that a formal resignation was their last option.

"We had multiple meetings to discuss our options," Jarrard summarized as she addressed the senate, "and we decided that things were not moving in a positive way toward the progress we needed."

Newman expressed his sadness and regret at the loss of the former board members. "They are a great bunch of students who have done many great things for SJC," he said. "It's a shame the way that things worked out."

He is, however, looking forward to a smooth transition in working with the new board, comprised of only five officers but nearly twenty committee members. Together, they are currently examining the problems that arose with the former board and taking pains to mend and prevent them from arising again. Newman asserted that the elimination of SUB is not a possibility. "If you asked me if SJC will always have a SUB, I would say 'yes.' If you asked me if it will always be student run, I would say 'yes.' If you asked me if it is going to change shape, I would say 'yes.'"

Teresa's Box of Indie Goodies

Teresa Moreno



photo courtesy of Matador Records

Interpol Antics

When you hear the name Interpol, what do you think of? Some people think of secretive missions or the international secret service, but probably don't think of the band. My job is to change that! Interpol is a New York based band that has been gaining recognition for their dark songs. In 2002, the band released their first full-length album entitled *Turn on the Bright Lights*. This release has earned Interpol comparisons to bands like The Chameleons and Joy Division. Despite the comparisons often made to these bands, Interpol continued to move forward and create their own sound. Last month, they released their latest album *Antics*.

Antics' opener starts off with an organ playing chords in "Next Exit." This immediately gives the album an interesting sound and sparks the listener's curiosity. The next song, "Evil", carries a Pixie-esque baseline with up-beat drumming. The lyrics to this song are very simple, but the music behind it seems to compensate. "Slow Hands", the latest single off the album, starts off with heavy guitar strumming. As the song progresses to the chorus, it swings into a post-punk dance combination. The sixth song on the album, "Not Even Jail" has a baseline that has a *Phantom of the Opera* feel to it. This song, along with "Take You on a Cruise" and "Public Pervert," is reminiscent of their previous album. The dark undertones of these songs are more commonly found on *Bright Lights*.

Interpol's sophomore album shares many of the same qualities as *Bright Lights*, but in this release, the band decided to change a few things about their sound. In this album, the tones of front man Paul Banks' vocals are slightly higher and more melodic. Getting rid of his monotonous tone does away with sound of hopelessness that was ever-present in *Bright Lights*. This new album focuses more on the actual melody, rather than the way it is delivered. Even with these minute changes in their sound, one of the main traits that is loved by most fans of Interpol is kept: they have managed to keep ambiguity within their lyrics. Many times, there is a specific topic that is being used as inspiration for their lyrics. Instead of describing it explicitly, the lyrics are vague and artistic. The uncertainties of the true meaning of the lyrics allow the listeners to create their own significance of the words being sung. All of these traits combined give this band a nice new feel.

Interpol can be found on the lovely Matador Records and at your local record store. For more information please visit www.interpolny.com.

Play Review: *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*

SJC's Columbian Players present 2004 Fall Comedy

By Joe Larson, Staff Writer

What do you get when you mix undercover Nazis, identical triplets, and a snowstorm? Here's a hint: it has nothing to do with Hugh Hefner. The answer is that they all three are featured in Jacob Bishop's *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. As the title suggests, the play is set in the year 2552. Based on a newly discovered clue, Officer Michael Kelly (Andrew Jendraszak) reopens the case of the stage door slasher, a murderer who killed three dancers traveling with a Broadway show. Kelly sets up a fake backers audition at the home of Elsa Von Grossenkneut (Angela Shaver), a wealthy socialite, in the hope of catching the killer by using the notebook of one of the murdered girls as bait. As luck would have it, a German saboteur shows up and things get a little crazy. A snow storm then knocks out the telephone lines and traps everyone in Elsa's home, which just happens to be filled with secret passageways because Elsa's father was a spy for the Kaiser. What follows involves a lot of murder, detective work, and gender confusion - the perfect recipe for an entertaining evening. In a play revolving so heavily around plot, it would be easy

for individual characters to get lost. Fortunately, each of the characters is excellently portrayed and retains his or her own quirks. Helsa Wenzel (Megan Barker) speaks in a German accent in addition to running around with a meat cleaver and turning into a man. She reminds us all that if there is one thing we need more of in the world, it is transvestites wielding sharp objects. Patrick O'Reilly (B.J. Houlding) has to do three different accents - Irish, Italian, and German. He uses so many different dialects that he practically holds a UN meeting with himself, only he takes his vote in the Security Council using a Lugar (which causes France to promptly surrender). Other characters are presented with equal success. Nikki Crandall (Jessica Harris) is an undercover naval intelligence officer posing as a dancer. Ken De La Maize (Jonathan Broeker) is a Hollywood director whose hobbies include making movies and killing dancers, an activity that makes it hard for him to get tickets to the ballet. He does not get along with Roger Hopewell (Adam Ways), a hilarious and, um, flamboyant lyricist. Roger's partner, Bernice Roth (Jennifer Savage), devotes

most of her creative energy to drinking and fainting. Marjorie Baverstock (Erin Diener) is a respected producer who is discreetly impaled with a sword early in the play. Providing the comic relief is Eddie McKuen (Brian Bugajski), who seems to have more luck at hitting people with bottles than at telling jokes. He does an excellent job of providing comic relief throughout the play.

There were many other excellent aspects of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. The set design was impressive, especially concerning the sliding bookcases that had to be repeatedly moved to reveal secret passages. The costumes also looked great. Since the play is already over, I suppose I do not have to worry about ruining the ending for anyone. Everyone who has ever seen an episode of *Scooby Doo* knows that the butler always did it. Remaining faithful to that tradition, the principle killers in this play are a German cross dresser and a Hollywood director with an Oedipal complex. In short, John Rahe and the Columbian Players here at SJC did an excellent job with *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*.

Movie Review: *Team America: World Police*

The creators of *South Park* produce more controversial comedy

By Katherine Stembel, Staff Writer

Remove the gratuitous obscenities, biased attitudes, and a puppet love scene inserted purely for shock value, and *Team America: World Police* boils down to an action movie satire about American freedom fighters purging the world of terrorism.

Directed, starring, and produced by Trey Parker and Matt Stone, creators of the wildly popular and admittedly offensive *South Park*, *Team America* features Gary Johnston, a Broadway actor recruited by the team to infiltrate terrorist organizations, thwarting their plans to destroy all that America represents. The terrorism attempts promise to be "9/11 times 1,000" led by the North Korean Kim Jong Il fixated on weapons of mass destruction.

The plot seems to trap itself in the necessary elements of the action movie theme Parker and Stone attempt to spoof. All of the elements are present: good guy fights bad guy, good guy falls in love while losing faith in himself, hero returns just in time to save the day...plus a lot of big guns, fiery explosions, and corny, imitable phrases. However, while some scenes feel forced, the movie accomplishes what it set out to do - offend anyone and everyone.

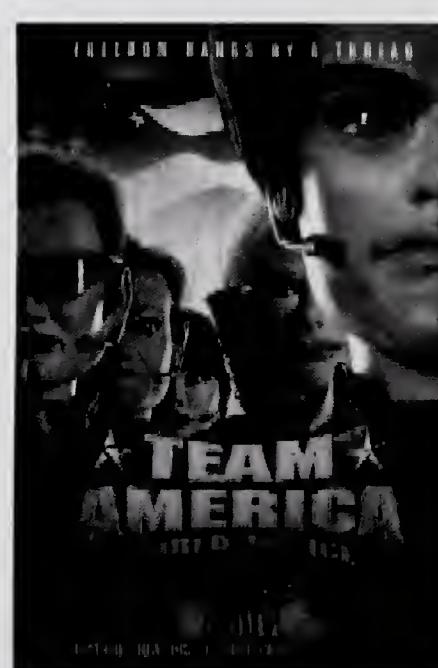


Photo courtesy of Art.com

Viewers should not be shocked by the typical *South Park*-esque agenda. Peppered with actors' gory deaths, the destruction of monuments such as the Eiffel Tower and Sphinx, and mocking of Middle Eastern people whose language seems to revolve around the phrase "durka-durka." Even

Hollywood actors were not safe from ridicule. The Film Actor's Guild, led by Alec Baldwin, speaks out against *Team America*'s destructive but well-meaning actions and supports North Korea's supposed peace movement.

Distinctive musical numbers serve as a highlight to the flick, although one might disagree that the best parts of *America* are the Gap, Valium, and band-aids. The song "Freedom Isn't Free" mocks country singer Alan Jackson, and for those who do not harbor an appreciation for the generally whiney, and shall we say rustic music, this was no tragedy. A song entitled "Montage" during the inescapable montage scene proved an interesting action movie point - after all, "even Rocky had a montage."

Whether a semi-retarded Matt Damon, *Star Wars* allusions, or puppet nudity, most everyone can discover an element in this flick to chuckle over. A must-see for the faithful *South Park* connoisseur, *Team America: World Police* is sprinkled with enough funny moments even for those concerned with political correctness, although in the future perhaps Parker and Stone should stick to what they do best - shows limited to a half an hour.

To become a Features writer, contact
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October 28, 2004

Stuff



by Brian Bugajski

Now that the leaves on the trees are changing and the sun is setting earlier every evening, I find myself trying to find a place on campus to observe nature as it is preparing for winter dormancy. One such place that I have stumbled upon is Lake Banet. The lake is a great place to watch the sun sink past the horizon on a cool fall day. It was there, on a day not too long ago that I was inspired to explore some of the history on this wonderful resource we have at our disposal.

The area now known as Lake Banet was originally part of the last land purchase of the college. The Saint Joseph's College Chronology states, "On April 13, 1945, Saint Joseph's bought its last parcel of land, 40 acres that had belonged to Elmer and Amy Phegley, lying in the southwest corner that includes present Lake Banet." The purchase of the Phegley farm brought the total property owned by the college to 1692 acres. The area was purchased at the request of Father Carl "Rocky" Nieset C.P.P.S., who was also the founder of the geology department in 1937. Father Nieset saw potential in the Phegley farm for a non-sulfur water well to supply the campus with fresh water as well as gravel and sand extraction to be used for sale and use around the campus. For the first thirty years of its existence, the lake facility was known as Xavier Park.

Xavier Park was used by the C.P.P.S. seminarians as a retreat from campus life. The seminarians were responsible for the construction of the swing set, basketball court and evergreen nursery that lies south of the park. *The Pictorial History of Saint Joseph's College* reveals that the evergreen tree nursery was used as a Christmas tree farm for members of the College as well as thieves who were in need of free Christmas trees.

Xavier Park, which was for seminarian use only, was opened for general college use in 1971. Father Charles Robbins C.P.P.S., author of the Saint Joseph's Chronology, asserts that, "In the course of time [the lake] became available for swimming, boating, fishing and camping for the college personnel and their families." The area received its current name in 1975, when the board of trustees renamed the area Lake Banet. The name was chosen to honor the father of Father Charles Banet C.P.P.S.

In the summer of 1976, Lake Banet became a full-fledged recreation area. The Chronology states, "It now had a well defined swimming area, a life guard tower, a grill, two covered pavilions for picnic tables, and a bathhouse for swimmers to change their clothes. In addition to the picnic areas, limited camping facilities, and places for volleyball, softball and basketball." The lake is also used for fishing, which I hear is quite good at times.

The lake has provided a great sanctuary for SJC students for nearly sixty years; however, it has also claimed the lives of two SJC students who failed to observe the rules of the lake. Every time I am at the lake, I realize what an untapped resource it really is. Swimming is officially closed for the season, and fishing is limited to the shoreline only, but the bonfire facilities are perfect for a cool fall night. The next time you are looking for a great place to view a sunset or have a club program, make sure to keep Lake Banet in mind.

Measure: A Call to Get Involved

Students are encouraged to "Be Seen. Be Known."

By Katie Grgic, Staff Writer

"Be Seen. Be Known." This catchy phrase is the new slogan for Measure, the literary organization on campus that publishes the annual *Measure* magazine. The slogan is just one of several changes, beginning last academic year, that have resulted in a sleeker and more sophisticated magazine and more fun and creative readings.

Anyone who has browsed a copy of last year's magazine and compared it to previous editions of *Measure* notices immediately how much the magazine has changed in design alone. Last year's editorial staff wanted to make the magazine more professional looking and modern, and decided to come up with a design that would better reflect SJC and its student talent. According to senior Becky Scherer, English/Creative Writing Major and current Editor-in-Chief of *Measure*, "We decided to change the format of the magazine because we had seen what other colleges were doing and thought there was no reason why we couldn't do the same. We definitely had (and continue to have) the same caliber of talent as those other schools, so we did everything in our power to make a bigger, better magazine our reality. We wanted a more streamlined, modern look, and we didn't think the old fashion of *Measure* (the stapled chapbook look) represented the ideology of SJC anymore. We wanted to keep it simple and sleek - not as busy as previous issues of the magazine. We decided that less (in the way of design - the simple cover, simple layout of the magazine) is definitely more." The end result proved to be a hit among students, despite being charged the minimal fee of one dollar to cover raised publication costs.

The internal editorial process has changed just as much as the design of the magazine. Up until last year, only one person served as editor, and oversaw everything from submissions to layout to design. Last year saw the implementation of an editorial board consisting of five editors, with one chief editor overseeing the staff. This year's board has been

expanded to six; one editor for each aspect of the magazine and production. Scherer explained, "A larger staff has allowed us to take on the responsibilities that have come with expanding the magazine - everything doesn't lie in the hands of just one editor anymore, so it's much easier to make a lot of changes and additions." This year's editorial board decided to continue the use of the new style of *Measure*, and also would like to see the magazine be printed in color, an impossibility last year resulting from a shortage of funds. The staff agreed upon the new slogan, and also approved a new logo, created by Design Editor Liz Henning, to accompany the new fliers advertising *Measure* and *Measure* readings.

Measure readings have also undergone a facelift. *Measure* holds readings once a month, usually the third Wednesday of the month, at 8:00 p.m. in Cup O' Joe's, located in the chapel basement. Readings began with the intention of recruiting material for the magazine, but they have become much more than that. Whether participants read original material or work by a favorite author, they can enjoy good poetry. Sophomore Danny Waclaw, Reading Coordinator, has worked hard to make them a more comfortable and creative atmosphere. He decorates Cup O' Joe for each reading, and there are always free snacks, soda, and Starbucks coffee for everyone who attends. A variety of music also usually accompanies the poetry being read. The result has been a more contemporary atmosphere for the readings, which matches the more contemporary feel of the new magazine.

The next *Measure* reading will be held on Nov. 17th at 8:00 P.M., and the staff invites the campus to share their talent. Also, do not pass up the opportunity to get work published! Submit all original poetry, short stories, plays, lyrics, artwork, etc. through Dec. 3rd to Katie Grgic, Submissions Editor, at kgi4465@saintjoe.edu. Get published. "Be Seen. Be known." Get involved in *Measure*.

Musician Mike Zale Visits SJC

By Danny Waclaw, Staff Writer

On yet another night of thrills and giggles on the campus of Saint Joseph's College in spectacular Rensselaer, Indiana, *Observer* staff writer Teresa Moreno visited traveling songster Mike Zale in the Halleck Ballroom on October 13th for a night of musical merriment.

On first seeing Zale, Moreno described the performer as a more in-control version of rocker Tom Petty. His music, on the other hand, did not quite match with Moreno's initial impression. The Rochester-based artist immediately went into songs not unlike those of John Mayer - a fact which did not exactly please our on-the-scene reporter. Songs such as his "Certainly" were cause for great disappointment in the already somewhat displeased Moreno. Additionally, he seemed to have an obsession with the word "cliché," particularly when speaking of his titles and the untitled works to which he was attempting to apply them.

Though Moreno was obviously not entirely enamored with the musician's musical style, she did find some of his music, specifically one of his untitled songs, to be quite good since it contained emotion which his other songs were lacking. She found most of his songs emotionally dry. This song and many others that the artist performed were

featured on his debut album *Pen Paper Guitar*, which was released in the summer of 2003. Zale is also in the process of creating a second album that is, of course, untitled at present, and intends on completing it sometime in the near future, assuming he can come up with a title.

Although the artist was not particularly of Moreno's musical tastes, she was appalled by the poor attendance to the concert. Only she and members of the Student Union Board were present to hear Zale's musical performance. As audiences normally increase the value of a concert, this fact alone was cause for a less enjoyable experience than would be possible. Perhaps the student body should become more aware of campus events, though the writer of this article regrets his inability to follow his own advice. Moreno did, however, receive one of Zale's CDs, free of charge, so perhaps one should go through her before starting to attend events and relinquishing our resident reporter from her free goodies.

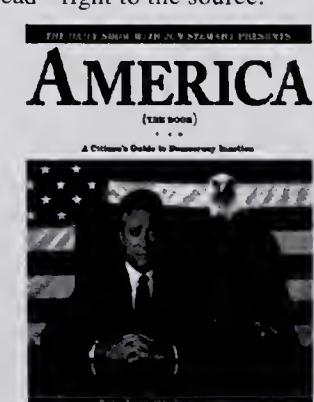
All in all, Zale's performance did not entirely please our staff writer, but did give some joy to the extremely small audience that got a chance to see him. To get more information on performer Mike Zale or to hear some clips of his music for free, please visit MikeZale.com.

America (The Book): Fake News, Real Laughs

By Melissa Alba, Staff Writer

Jon Stewart's America (The Book) focuses on American political history and government with the same kind of humor of the "fake news" of *The Daily Show*. By using humor, it manages to make a point sneakily and gets you to think. After the Foreword by Thomas Jefferson, you can look forward to such chapters as "The President: King of America," "The Congress: Quagmire of Freedom," and "The Future of Democracy: Four Score and Seven Years from Now." Format is what makes this book a real work of near genius. It has the look, feel, and the exact size of a school textbook, complete with discussion questions and group activities. We are taught how to found a country in chapter one and "lose hope" in chapter eight. We are asked to discuss what TV shows we would like to watch rather than the nightly news. There are even "Were You Aware" boxes giving us such gems as "Were You Aware: Delaware's status as the first state to ratify the Constitution is still, 217 years later, the only thing it has going for it." The book's favorite target is the idiocy of

the media. And in an age of Dan "Fact checking? Bah!" Rather and Fox, "Fair and Balanced, in the same sense that Mike Tyson is calm and sane" News, this is much needed. Throughout the book, several short sections appear where the reporters from *The Daily Show* voice their opinions and special fun facts here and there on anything; from parts of Canada being part of Great Britain, to people who should vote because "one person only counts as .00000949%." Overall, America (The Book) goes where many politically-related humor books dare not tread - right to the source.



'Stop the Bleeding'

A Special Report from Ken Badylak

The real world is quickly approaching a few members of the Saint Joseph's College Football Team. For the lone five seniors of the team, graduation is coming faster than expected.

Back in 2001, the football team brought in 40 new faces. However, through transferring or simply quitting only five of them made it to Senior Day at Alumni Stadium. Jordan Rassam, Justin Long, Brandon Deardorff, Matt Abel, Taylor Simonis and Dave Beale who is a senior but returning next fall were the five that stuck with the program even though the future did not look good. However, all five stood proud in the 50-12 victory over Austin Peay State.

Over the last two seasons the football team carried a record of 6-16. But the hiring of Head Coach Tim Lester during the winter of 2003 was just one part of this year's team's current success. Lester explains that the fastest way to turn a program around is by playing young players. However, the best way to rebuild a program lies within the seniors. The key to a good first year is how the seniors treat the new coaching staff because their reactions will be reflected on to the younger players.

Although Lester did not recruit these seniors, he believes that anyone who plays football should learn the value and benefits of hard work. Also, students that play four years of football learn how to budget their time. Perhaps the most important thing a player should learn is how to face adversity. Throughout four years of college, adversity comes when it is least expected. Coach Lester believes the education comes in how a person reacts to it.

Lester has an expression, "Stop the bleeding," which he uses when the momentum has left the Pumas' side. "We have the freshman that make plays but the seniors keep us in the game," said Lester.

A true test to his statement came in the victory over Upper Iowa. Trailing 17-0, Rassam came off the backside of the line, got the sack, forced a fumble, and then recovered the ball. Rassam's



Deardorff (85), Rassam (58), Abel (5), and Long (2) have all made their mark on this young Puma football team. All photos courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.

play sparked the Pumas to score on the next play and rally for the win.

When the team is on the brink of quitting the seniors step up and stop the bleeding. Either by Abel making a key tackle, Long catching a key third down pass, or by Deardorff getting a touchback to force opponents to make a longer drive down the field.

Place Kicker Brandon Deardorff, a Business Administration major with a concentration in Marketing has reacted adversely a few times during his time at SJC. As one of the 40 freshmen in 2001, Deardorff was also a baseball player. One of the toughest decisions he made was quitting baseball to focus on school and football. After three admittedly frustrating seasons, Deardorff has found this season bittersweet. Although, he is facing his last season in football, Deardorff cannot

wait to come back next year during Homecoming to see how much better his old and new teammates have become.

Nevertheless, at the beginning of his career, Deardorff had to deal with being compared to former SJC standout kicker Eric Hitzman. The comparisons to Hitzman burned the then shy freshman Deardorff who wanted to be known as his own player. Now after scoring his career 100th point against Tiffin, the kicker is leaving on a high note. Going into his last home game Deardorff wanted a Puma victory and to make a field goal; the senior had been previously sitting on three consecutive misses going into Senior Day.

The seniors left their playing days at SJC on top, Abel finished his home career with eight tackles. Long caught a seven-yard touchdown pass and a two-

Senior Contributions

(Over the last three seasons)

Matt Abel
226 Tackles

Brandon Deardorff
57% FG 90% PAT

Justin Long
36 REC 458 YDS 9 TD

Jordan Rassam
97 Tackles, 9 Sacks

yard touchdown pass, Simonis saw his first action of the season but left the game late in the first half due to injury. Rassam recovered a fumble. As for Deardorff, he made two field goals and was six for six on extra points.

Do you like sports?
Do you like to write?

Contact Adam Mandon
at ext. 5139 if you are
interested in writing for
The Observer.

Coach Lou Wants YOU at These Local Upcoming Events

October 29

Volleyball vs. Kentucky Wesleyan 7:00 p.m.

October 30

Volleyball vs. Northern Kentucky 1:00 p.m.

October 31

Women's Soccer vs. Bellarmine GLVC Tourney Time T.B.A. Men's Basketball @ Butler 7:00 p.m.

November 1

Volleyball vs. Marian 7:00 p.m.

November 4

Men's Basketball @ Notre Dame 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball @ Indiana State 7:00 p.m.

November



SJC Men's Soccer Team Finishes Season Strong

By Mike Beckner, Reporter

The men's soccer season has come to a close for the 2004 season. The team finished the season with a record of 4-13-1. In conference, the Pumas were 3-6-1 and just missed the tournament. The team fought hard the weekend of October 8th to put themselves in tournament contention by beating the University of Missouri-St. Louis 2-1 and then defeating Southern Indiana 4-3. Both of these games were won in the final seconds of play. Freshman Reshad Etminan hit a shot just outside the 18 to beat the UMSL keeper and Justin Fox hit his game winner about 25 yards out to clinch the victory of Southern Indy.



Adrian Llewellyn had four assists.

Unfortunately, the next weekend the tournament dreams ended, when they lost to Bellarmine at home 2-0. The



Reshad Etminan scored six goals.

Pumas finished the season with a big win over Kentucky Wesleyan and two

tough losses in Kansas City against Rockhurst and Truman State.

The leading point getter for the Pumas this year was Reshad Etminan. Etminan finished the season with 5 goals and 1 game winning goal to give him 12 points. Fox and John Girgorakis also contributed 3 goals. The John Stocktons of this year's team were Adrian Llewellyn and Brad Habel each tallying 4 assists. The Pumas had a tough go at the beginning of the season but came back strong to win three of the last four conference games. This team has a great future set in front of them and this writer knows for a fact that the conference tournament is so close that the team can taste it.

Lady Pumas Gear Up for GLVC Tournament

By Mike Beckner, Reporter

The women's regular soccer season has come to an end. The ladies finished the season with a record of 5-9-4. In conference the Pumas were 5-4-1 allowing them to host the first round of the tournament at Joseph L. Minelli field on Sunday October 31. The ladies also put themselves into tournament contention on the weekend of the 8th as they steam rolled over Southern Indiana 2-1 and beat UMSL 1-0. The girls scored first in both of these games and never looked back. These two wins were enough to clinch a tournament berth for the ladies. The ladies were still unsatisfied; they wanted to host the first game of the tournament. On the weekend of October 15th they took care of enough business to do just that as they beat Kentucky Wesleyan 2-0 on Sunday.



Melinauskas tallied 15 points in '04.

The Pumas finished off the regular season with a two tough losses, one to



Klosterman scored two goals in '04.

Grand Valley State and the other came at the hand of Rockhurst University

The leading point getter for the Pumas this year was Melissa Melinauskas. Melinauskas has led the Pumas this season with seven goals and one assist giving her 15 points. Britney Cox has 3 goals this season, while Erin Gallagher, Kristin Dolmetsch, and Olivia Klosterman have all chipped in 2. The assist leaders for the women's team were Nicole Nowaczyk with 4 assists and Jackie Inkrott with 3 assist. The Pumas also started out a little slow but came out in the end of the season to show that they are the real deal. This team is destined for big things in the tournament so come out to the soccer field to support them, on October 31 against Bellarmine.

A special thanks to Mike Beckner, a Defender for the men's soccer team, for giving The Observer an inside look at the soccer teams this year.

SJC Men's Basketball 2004-2005 Season Preview

By Ken Badylak, Reporter

Every morning, Linc Darner, Men's Head Basketball Coach at Saint Joseph's College, arrives at his office with one thing in mind: The NCAA Tournament.

Darner is not alone with this lofty goal--his players are right behind him. In fact Darner believes that last year's team was one game away from getting into the tournament. A home loss to Goshen College (NAIA) Darner believes took SJC out of consideration for the post season.

In an effort to make sure his team is tough enough for the season, Darner scheduled three Division I teams for exhibition games. The first game coming November 4th against one of the best offensive teams in the country: the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. The Irish have two potential first round draft picks in Chris Thomas and Torin Francis. However, Darner wants his team to play against good shooters because they will face good shooting teams during conference play.

Then the Pumas will play Butler, a team that returns three starters following a 16-win season. The Bulldogs are a solid half court, slow paced team...again, a style of play

SJC will encounter several times this season.

The final exhibition game will feature Purdue, which plays a tough half court defense.

All three teams are proficient in different areas of basketball and these teams will be the best talent the Pumas will play against all season.

The NCAA Tournament is not just a statement. It is a process. The Pumas will have to be in the top half of the Great Lakes Valley Conference (the toughest Division II conference in the country), play well against their non-conference opponents, and most importantly get off to a good start.

Rebounding will be extremely important this season since the loss of key big men like Corey Seegers. In fact, Darner believes that his squad has the potential to be the best rebounding team in the league.

"Rebounding is about positioning and determination," he said.

The current players on the roster do not have the overall size, but the fast tempo of the game and the quickness of the players allows them to get to the ball faster and get better position than other big men.

Darner's offense will feature a deep bench and an up and down style. With the improved shooting of Jonathan Pittman and help from the new perimeter players featuring freshman Matty Bush, junior Sullivan Sykes, and freshmen guards Devon Thomas and Ronald Coleman.

The Pumas returning top scorer and rebounder junior forward Derek Fey will add to the outside threat. Fey, a mid season transfer last year, produced an offensive spark that pushed the Pumas over .500 and into the conference tournament.

The defense will be dramatically different this season as well, especially if the Pumas remain healthy. Injuries cut into the roster last season and Darner relied on gimmick defenses, like a number of different zones. This season the Pumas will bring a man-on-man set with pressing and trapping all over the court.

The Pumas will also return senior co-captain Kane Lynas and junior forward Jerome Burton. Both Lynas and Burton are coming off knee injuries that limited their production last season. guard/ forward Blake Schoen returns for his junior year with

the anticipation of becoming an all around threat on the floor. Last season, Schoen did not always follow up a strong offense performance with another high scoring game.

Senior Captain Marvin Smith will lead the defense by getting the responsibility of guarding the opponents best perimeter player each night.

"It's a job I know I have to do," said Smith. "I am used to those situations."

However, the overall theme to practice this year is consistency. Darner wants the comfort of knowing that his team will be able to overcome a bad night by any player.

Smith praises his teammates on their hard work and over all athletic talent.

Also, Darner characterizes his practices as "organized chaos." He feels that the fast pace practices will bring a comfort level to the team on game night.

Nevertheless, Smith refers to the practices as the best in the school's history. When the Pumas take the floor this season, Smith expects that he and his teammates will accomplish nothing short of an NCAA Tournament appearance.

Madame Sandra's Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Now is a good time for you to improve your social life. You have a lot of charm right now, so be sure to surround yourself with people wherever you go. People whom you never knew before will become new friends, and you will be very pleased with your new popularity.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Even though you are feeling the need right now to do your own thing, it is still important that you keep your friends and family updated about your life. You can keep them uninformed without leaving them in the dark, and everyone will benefit from this type of arrangement.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You are overly cautious about your work right now, and you will soon find yourself tinkering with something far longer than you should be. While it is important to strive for perfection, you should not become overly obsessed with attaining it, as this will cause more problems in the end.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

If there has been something you have been secretly dreaming about or desiring, now is the time to make sure it happens. Dreams can come true, but only if you give them a little help. Don't leave everything to fate; sometimes fate needs a push to get going.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Take some time off of your busy schedule to relax and appreciate the world around you. Sometimes you are so busy that you do not even notice the simple events that are going on around you. Appreciate all that you have been given, and remember to value the little things in life.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Try to avoid bossiness in your close relationships right now. Even though you think you may have the all of the answers, it's very possible that at times, you simply don't. Remember that people don't like being told what to do, especially when you are snobbish about it.

Libra (September 23-October 23)

A person from your past may soon reappear in your life, and it is important that you do not immediately shut the person out of your life. He or she has a reason for seeking you out again, and you may miss out on a wonderful opportunity if you do not give him or her a chance.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21)

If you feel irritated or moody in the next few days, instead of withdrawing and isolating yourself, try to look to others to improve your mood. Even though some may irritate you further, you will find an improved mood in the company of close friends.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

If you begin to work on a large project soon and find that it isn't coming along as well as you would've liked, don't be afraid to stop and start over, this time in a new direction. Even though it will be more work, it is the only way that you will find satisfaction in the end.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Don't hurry things along right now. Although this method may seem to be the only answer to your busy life, the things you are involved in right now are too important to be done carelessly. Take your time and work things through carefully.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Moderation is the key to your life right now. Take care not to over-indulge in anything, as doing so could be especially disadvantageous to your life right now. Take things a little bit at a time, and you will be happy that you did so in the end.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

If a new opportunity presents itself to you soon, be careful not to jump in head first too quickly. Sit back and let the situation work out at its own pace; don't try to rush it. Even though it may happen more slowly than you'd like, it will all work out in the end.

Things to do while living in a Dorm

By Andrew Costello

Play basketball with cylindrical laundry baskets,
Run through the hall and spray shaving cream on doors,
Pass a football,
Cheer for the Fighting Irish, Cubs, or Bears.
Practice your chip-shot for the Masters,
Engage in Halo and Mario Kart tournaments,
Yell in disbelief at a bad play on Madden 2004 or MLB 2K5,
Blare your loudspeakers with Coldplay and 50-cent,
Draw humorous symbols and pictures on hanging whiteboards,
Pick fights with people bigger than you,
Order some pizza,
Hamburgers and Hot Dogs.
Guzzle your Gatorade and gobble your Easy Mac.
Convene a group to discuss policies,
Play some Texas Hold 'em.
Make new Friends,
Watch American Pie,
Indulge in amorous activities.
Polaris, Jupiter, and the Venus.
Brush your teeth and use Listerine,
Take a shower.
Get lost on the Internet.
Read in the basement in your pajamas,
Maybe get some studying done!

How Flexible is Your Mind?

Here are the answers to the puzzles printed in the last issue of *The Observer*. Very few people have been able to complete all of the 23 puzzles. Hope you did well!

1. 26 letters in the alphabet
2. 7 Wonders of the World
3. 1,001 Arabian Nights
4. 12 Signs of the Zodiac
5. 54 Cards in a Deck (with the Jokers)
6. 9 Planets in the Solar System
7. 88 Piano Keys
8. 13 Stripes on the American Flag
9. 32 Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes
10. 18 Holes on a Golf Course
11. 90 Degrees in a Right Angle
12. 200 Dollars for Passing Go in Monopoly
13. 8 Sides on a Stop Sign
14. 3 Blind Mice (See How They Run)
15. 4 Quarts in a Gallon
16. 24 Hours in a Day
17. 1 Wheel on a Unicycle
18. 5 Digits in a Zip Code
19. 57 Heinz Varieties
20. 11 Players on a Football Team
21. 1,000 Words that a Picture is Worth
22. 29 Days in February in a Leap Year
23. 64 Squares on a Chess Board

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Do you have an original short story, poem, reflection, comic, or other work that you would like to see printed on the Et Cetera page of *The Observer*?

Please contact Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu to submit your work.



SJC Poet's Corner

Untitled

This is what I want you to do:
Find me my tulip cocoon,
Sit with me,
Scented with flowers perfume,
In happiness.
Erase number 5,
You never really wanted to do
that anyway,
Don't sketch out the rest of
your life.
Listen to me,
Leak the ideas that make you
giggle,
Stop being so pristine,
Reject routine,
Eat dinner before breakfast.
Follow the shadows,
Wander through a day,
Toss all reason in to the
hamper,
It won't move.
Give me one day,
Guide us on a journey to
nowhere,
Help me remember
spontaneity,
Deny the future, just for a
moment.

-Amber Mathia

A ___ Song

Fire burns inside of me
When I speak of you,
Chills run down my spine,
And my stomach tumbles too.
Deep inside your name incites
A passion, true and strong;
My mind can think of nothing
Save you, your love, your song.
But in this little poem here
A distinction I must create:
That I have found, time and
again,
No difference between love and
hate.

-Sandra Wood

Who pays?

We sit at dinner-you pay
We sit at the theatre-you pay
But who pays in the end?

We get married-I pay
We have a child-I pay
Something tells me you win

-Cortny Woodruff

I Wish I Had an Elephant

I wish I had an elephant
He'd be big and tall.
He'd bring me to school each
day
And all I'd have to do is call.

I wish I had a chipmunk
To dig beneath the ground.
We'd dig a hole to China
To see what could be found

I wish I had a zebra
To frolic in the street.
We'd play tricks on all the
neighbors
And we'd enjoy hide and
seek.

I wish I had these animals
Buy, alas, I can have none.
My dad is terribly allergic
Which takes away all my fun.

-Dani Klosowski

Ghost

As the wind swirls around and
the house moans,
I can feel his presence,
I can hear the creaks of his
footsteps in the attic.
Late tonight I saw the doorknob
slowly turn,
yet there is never anyone there.
He is the lost ghost who will
never be found,
and even now I'm scared to go
back to that house,
scared of him, scared of the
house,
knowing he's still in there
waiting,
waiting to rest at last,
but mostly waiting for me to
return.

-Dani Klosowski

Want to see your poem in print???

Email

swh4014@saintjoe.edu